

### REMARKS

The claims 1 to 16 previously in the application have been cancelled and new claims 17 to 39 have been added. The new claims have been carefully formulated to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

The principal reference relied upon in the rejection of claims 1 to 16 is Engelmann et al. This reference relates to a method and system for displaying medical images that displays an image along with corresponding ones of the same image with computer-aided diagnostic (CAD) information added, see Fig. 16 as an example. The display of the image is normally of a larger size to allow a radiologist to easily read the image while the corresponding ones of the images with the CAD information are displayed in a smaller size. The smaller (minified) images allow the radiologist to view all of the information available for the image at one time. The radiologist can select any of the corresponding smaller images to be viewed in the larger size.

As presently claimed in independent claims 17 and 25, the present invention comprises a method and apparatus for screening medical cases in which a multiplicity of medical cases are stored. All of the medical cases contain a group of images of a particular portion of a patient's anatomy with the views of the images of all groups being the same. A common workflow is established for all medical cases, for viewing by a user, of an ordered sequence of preselected specified images derived from the stored group of images of each said medical case that is representative of the particular portion of a patient's anatomy being screened. The specification of the specified preselected images is the same for all medical cases, with all specified images being viewed in the same order. A user interface is coupled to the workflow whereby a user can control stepping through the ordered sequence of preselected specified images for viewing one by one. The common workflow is preprogrammed to establish the ordered sequence of the preselected specified images derived from the stored images of each medical case.

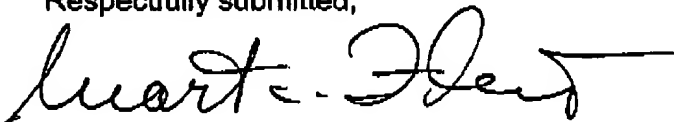
Each ordered sequence of the preselected specified images derived from the stored images of each medical case is displayed for viewing by a user, in order, one after the other. The stepping through the ordered sequence of the preselected specified images derived from the stored images of each medical case is controlled by a user initiating only a single action input to move the workflow from each present step of viewing the current specified image to each next step of the ordered sequence to view the next succeeding specified image.

As presently claimed, the Engelmann et al reference no longer has any relevance. In Engelmann, all images are put up on the screen at the same time and the viewer simply clicks on the minified image he wishes to view, and can do so at random. The viewer must make a choice before each click. In the present invention, a subset of images is derived from a set of images and the subset programmed and is put in a particular order. The viewer goes from one preprogrammed image to another, in order, by a single action input. No choices are required to step through the preprogrammed sequence of images. As mentioned in the specification this speeds up the viewing and enables the screening to take place in a more effective and timely manner. Usually the viewer is screening many cases, and needs to get through them as expeditiously as possible. By the present invention as claimed, this happens in the most expeditious way.

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time, time sufficient, to effect a timely response, and shortages in this or other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Deposit Account of the undersigned, Account No. 500601 (Docket no. 739-X01-003).

Respectfully submitted,



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